

**No. 18025**

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**FRANCE  
and  
NIGER**

**General Convention relating to co-operation in scientific  
and technical research. Signed at Niamey on 15 March  
1975**

*Authentic text: French.*

*Registered by France on 13 November 1979.*

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**FRANCE  
et  
NIGER**

**Convention générale relative à la coopération en matière  
de recherche scientifique et technique. Signée à Niamey  
le 15 mars 1975**

*Texte authentique : français.*

*Enregistrée par la France le 13 novembre 1979.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

GENERAL CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> RELATING TO CO-OPERATION IN  
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL RESEARCH BETWEEN THE  
FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE NIGER

The Government of the French Republic, represented by Mr. Pierre Abelin, and the Government of the Republic of the Niger, represented by Mr. Moumouni Djermakoye.

## PREAMBLE

Within the framework of mutual co-operation with regard to scientific, technical, economic and social development, the Government of the Republic of the Niger and the Government of the French Republic have agreed to continue and to develop their relations in the field of scientific and technical research in accordance with the following provisions:

*Article 1.* Co-operation between the Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Republic of the Niger in the field of scientific and technical research shall be carried out in each country within the framework of their competent institutions.

*Article 2.* This co-operation generally shall be based on programmes covering several years. The programmes shall be of three types:

- Joint programmes;
- Programmes of research institutions of the Niger for the execution of which assistance from France may be requested;
- Programmes of French institutions carried out in research institutions of the Niger.

*Article 3.* The joint programmes shall be drawn up and proposed by the Niger or by France and shall be accepted upon the agreement of both Parties. The two Governments shall finance the projects, which shall be carried out by teams from the Niger and France within the framework and on the responsibility of the competent national institutions undertaking their co-ordination and supervision.

*Article 4.* The programmes of institutions of the Niger shall be drawn up by the Government of the Republic of the Niger.

They shall be carried out by the competent institutions of the Niger.

At the request of the Government of the Republic of the Niger, assistance may be provided, in the form of experts, technical support or financial participation, to permit the total or partial execution of research programmes of the institutions of the Niger.

*Article 5.* The programmes of French research institutions shall be financed entirely by the Government of the French Republic.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 15 March 1975 by signature.

They shall be carried out by French teams working in research institutions of the Niger with the agreement of the Government of the Republic of the Niger.

*Article 6.* Supplements to this Convention shall periodically establish the contribution to be made by each Party for the purpose of carrying out the programmes, shall determine the methods of financing and shall designate the research institutions of the Niger and France to be entrusted with their execution.

Special protocols shall establish the conditions governing the application of articles 2, 3, 4 and 5.

*Article 7.* Customs, tax and special tax exemptions applicable to the temporary or permanent importation of any materials, documents or goods to be utilized in connection with activities carried out within the framework of this Convention shall be granted in accordance with the agreements and conventions in force between the French Republic and the Republic of the Niger.

Expatriate personnel paid by the French Government and by French institutions who are employed in such activities shall be covered by the provisions applicable to personnel working under co-operation agreements.

Personnel working in institutions of the Niger and of France shall be required to abide by the internal regulations of those institutions: They shall be subject to the administrative authority of the director of the institution and to the authority in scientific matters of the director of the research unit in which they are employed.

*Article 8.* The Government of the French Republic may also place at the disposal of the Government of the Republic of the Niger, at the latter's request, other facilities to assist in the organization and operation of its research institutions.

*Article 9.* The two Governments recognize that a special effort must be made to train research personnel.

To that end, the Government of the French Republic undertakes to ensure or facilitate to the best of its ability the training and advanced training of researchers and technicians from the Republic of the Niger.

*Article 10.* In addition to investments relating to research programmes and financed within the framework of such programmes, buildings and equipment intended to enhance the research potential of the Republic of the Niger may be financed by the French Republic.

*Article 11.* With a view to strengthening ties between their scientific institutions, learned societies and researchers, the two Governments undertake to encourage twinning arrangements and associations, in particular, with a view to facilitating the reciprocal exchange of information, and exchanges or loans of documents and scientific collections.

*Article 12.* In implementation of international agreements on the dissemination of information, the two Governments undertake not to impose restrictions on the circulation between the two countries of information documents of a purely scientific nature.

With respect to applications of the research in the economic field and, subject to special stipulations contained in research contracts or protocols:

- The results obtained in the framework of the joint programmes may be freely utilized by each Party within its national territory; their agreement shall be required for the utilization of such findings in third countries;
- The results obtained within the framework of the programmes of research institutions of the Niger may be utilized by French research institutions only with the express authorization of the authorities of the Niger;
- The results obtained within the framework of the programmes of French institutions carried out in the Niger may be used freely by such institutions; however, the Government of the Republic of the Niger shall have priority in the use of all such results in its territory at no cost to it.

The use and exploitation of inventions and patents shall be the subject of a case-by-case agreement between the two Governments.

In all instances, scientific publications arising from research activities carried out in the Niger shall be disseminated on a priority basis in scientific publications of the Niger.

*Article 13.* A special commission shall supervise the implementation of this Convention. It shall meet at least once a year to consider the conditions and results of, and the prospects for, co-operation between the two countries in the area of scientific and technical research, including the field of training. The results of its work shall be submitted to the Commission on Co-operation of France and the Niger for its approval.

*Article 14.* This Convention is concluded for a period of five years, and shall be automatically renewed.

Each Government may at any time inform the other Contracting Party of its intention to revise or denounce it.

In the former case, six full months' notice shall be given prior to the date of the contemplated revision. In the second case, the operations undertaken under the Convention shall cease automatically one year following the notice of the denunciation.

*Article 15.* An exchange of letters between the two Governments shall determine the temporary arrangements for the operation of French research institutions currently working in the Republic of the Niger.

*Article 16.* This Convention shall abrogate and replace General Convention No. 19/C/60/H on Aid and Co-operation in the Field of Scientific Research dated 20 February 1961 and all other texts the provisions of which are contrary to this Convention.

DONE at Niamey on 15 March 1975.

For the Government of the French Republic:

[Signed]

PIERRE ABELIN

For the Government of the Republic of the Niger:

[Signed]

MOUMOUNI DJERMAKOYE